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Fish Nets

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INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE ELECTORS

The Attorney General has summarized the proposed measure as follows:

FISH NETS. INITIATIVE. Amends Fish and Game Code. Prohibits use of purse nets and round haul nets for fishing in ocean and tide waters of the State south of line extending due west from Point San Simeon in San Luis Obispo County. Expresses purpose of conserving fish supply. Subject to limitations, permits use of bait nets for taking bait fish. Provides penalties for violation.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

County (or City and County) of _____

} ss.

To the Honorable Secretary of State of the State of California:

We, the undersigned registered and qualified electors of the State of California, residents of the County (or City and County) of _____

_____ present to the Secretary of State this petition and hereby propose amendments to the Fish and Game Code of the State of California by adding Sections 930 and 1412 to read as hereinafter set forth in full, and petition that the same be submitted to the electors of the State of California for their adoption or rejection, at the next succeeding general election or as provided by law. The proposed amendments to the Fish and Game Code read as follows:

“An act to provide for the conservation of the natural resources of this State and for that purpose to add Sections 930 and 1412 to the Fish and Game Code, relating to and prohibiting the use of certain nets in the waters of or adjacent to this State and establishing penalties for violations.”

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

Section 1. Fish constitute one of the most important natural resources of this State, and their preservation is essential for the economic and recreational development of the State. In the waters of this State lying southerly of a line extending due west from the tip of Point San Simeon, San Luis Obispo County, fish the taking of which is made unlawful by this act have become so depleted as to constitute a threat as to the maintenance of even the present depleted supply thereof. In order that such supply be not further depleted, it is essential that this measure be enacted.

Sec. 2. Section 930 is added to the Fish and Game Code to read:

930. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, it is unlawful to use purse and round haul nets in any district or part of a district lying in the ocean waters and tidelands to highwater mark of this State and the islands adjacent thereto, lying southerly of a line extending due west from the tip of Point San Simeon, San Luis Obispo County, except that bait nets, as now defined in Section 919, not exceeding 220 fathoms in length on the cork line, including wings, and not exceeding 21 fathoms in depth, including apron, may be used for the taking of fish for bait purposes only.

Sec. 3. Section 1412 is added to the said code to read:

1412. Any violation of the provisions of Section 930 is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for not to exceed six months, or both. Upon conviction of the accused, any device or apparatus used in committing the offense may be forfeited as now prescribed in Section 1414.